

February 26, 1976

of about a half a million dollars this year and we can also avoid about a \$2,393,000 appro ... excuse me, fiscal impact. Now there is fiscal impact to raising from \$12.50 up to \$20, however, it's nowhere near the \$2,393,000. That's why the Appropriations Committee, all the way through the operating budget, has adopted the policy and applied the figures that the single employee rate goes to everybody. Then if there's a person that is married and has children they pay the difference between that and the married persons package ... family plan in other words.

PRESIDENT: Senator Swigart.

SENATOR SWIGART: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask Senator Hasebroock or Senator Goodrich a question if I could please. When you're reading that paper, Senator Hasebroock, I didn't catch the actual financial impact of the increase for this coming year over the past year to the state...the state's financial impact.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: This increase would cost approximately \$2,393,000.

SENATOR SWIGART: The increase itself.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Right.

SENATOR SWIGART: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, there's a couple of things that ought to be noted about the money. Again, this is not my bill but, certainly, I was on the Committee that heard it. I wish I had some information which I will try to get around before the bill is over. We underspent, in the employees benefit program here, for quite some time in terms of ... as you recall we allocated \$15, we only spent at a level of \$12. So there was a net difference in there over that two or three year period of about \$1.6 million, which almost takes care of the increased cost this year. We had authorized 15 but the program, as I remember it, came out to 12. I will have for you those exact figures in terms of the financial part of it when the bill moves on across the board to Select File.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Could I ask Senator Goodrich a question please. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, Senator Goodrich....?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes.

SENATOR DICKINSON: ... I wish you'd clarify, for me at least and probably for some others. There is a proposal in the Appropriations Committee bills that we have not yet considered dealing with health insurance for state employees.